



THE CITIZENS' COUNCIL

Dedicated to the maintenance of peace, good order and domestic tranquility in our Community and in our State and to the preservation of our States' Rights

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Jackson, Mississippi

Hearings Link Commies To NAACP

Target: Mississippi--

CRC Is Trying Again

It seems that the Federal Civil Rights Commission just can't learn from experience.

Last year, the national race-mixing group boasted that a state "advisory committee" was being organized in Mississippi. But the Civil Rights Commission spoke too soon. Mississippians by the dozens flatly rejected invitations to serve as integration "advisors"—and no committee was formed.

This fall, it's the same old story. And once again, the CRC boasted prematurely that a Mississippi "advisory" board had been formed, and would be operating before the first of the year.

When this announcement was made in Washington on Nov. 12, the CRC would not give the names of its Mississippi "advisors."

Apparently, this was because the CRC was again whistling in the dark. (And they weren't whistling Dixie, either!—Ed.) Two weeks of intensive investigation by newsmen and other interested groups have turned up only one white Mississippian who admitted his willingness to serve, along with two unnamed and reportedly "non-controversial" Negroes.

Since state "advisory" groups usually consist of seven, eight or nine members, plus as many alternates, the Civil Rights Commission has apparently lined up only one-sixth of its Mississippi integration "advisors," with denials coming from all other persons asked by the Commission to accept appointments.

This is a sharp variance with the Commission's Nov. 12 statement, which said the Mississippi group was already formed, composed of "prominent, very busy people, representing all shades of thinking, and including members of both races." At that time, the CRC reported that the only remaining step was routine approval of the Mississippi "advisors" by the full Commission, and that such approval was merely a matter of form.

The same statement said a similar "advisory" group was being formed in South Carolina, where an 8-man committee was formed in July, only to disband after meeting determined opposition from citizens and the press.

Mississippi and South Carolina remain as the only two states without such "advisors" to the pro-integration Federal agency.

The "advisory" groups are set up to keep the CRC posted on local conditions affecting race relations, pointing out the weak spots. The state "advisors" have no power other than to submit written recommendations to the CRC, and the Federal agency is under no obligation to accept such recommendations.

During the first attempt to secure Mississippi "advisors"—in the fall of 1958—a CRC "undercover" agent traversed the state seeking names for his list. Under constant surveillance, the agent was unsuccessful in his task. In desperation, he sought anyone who was willing to serve, regardless of individual prominence. He found none.

The agent, George Harris, then frantically telephoned dozens of Mississippians. Again, he was totally unsuccessful. Finally, when the cat-and-mouse game had been played to its conclusion, newsmen knocked on Harris' hotel-room door in Jackson.

The dismayed "undercover" agent promptly fled the city on "the next plane out of town," as he told the desk clerk. So quickly did he leave Jackson that he was wearing sports clothes. His only suit was still at the cleaners.

Perhaps recalling his epic cloak-and-dagger work last year, Harris concluded this fall that discretion was the better part of valor. He conducted most of this year's campaign for "advisors" from the safety

(See CRC, P. 2)

Comrades In Carpetbagging!



The Carpetbaggers Are Coming--Again!

(An Editorial)

I.

It seems as though every fall, the Federal Civil Rights Commission goes through the motions of trying to secure a Mississippi "advisory group" to aid the Commission in its announced program of immediate, total and complete integration of the races in schools, housing, and other areas of life.

One thing must be said for these bureaucratic meddlers—they are persistent. We are certain they will learn that the white citizens of Mississippi are equally persistent in refusing to do business with the evil forces of integration.

Last October, when the mis-named Civil Rights Commission boasted that it had completed selection of a Mississippi "advisory group," the Citizens' Councils warned the people of Mississippi that "The Carpetbaggers Are Coming!" We repeat that warning today.

We stated then—and we repeat now—that any scalawag Southerner who fronts for our mortal enemies will face the well-deserved distaste, contempt and ostracism that any proud people would feel for a traitor.

It is our firm belief that NO decent or responsible citizen in the South will be so stupid as to allow himself to be used for the betrayal of his own people. "Advisory groups" in Tennessee and other Southern states resigned as soon as they learned what was expected of them. Mississippi can profit from this experience.

Why should dedicated Southerners serve as "advisors" to our mortal enemies? What sort of advice does the Civil Rights Commission want, other than recommendations for accomplishing the maximum amount of race-mixing in the minimum amount of time?

These people cannot be bargained with. It would be a waste of time to attempt to reason with them. They will not listen to sound advice. All they seek is "compromise"—which, by their definition, is OUR agreement to THEIR terms. This we will never do.

Is there any white person in Mississippi who will take a public stand for school integration, mixed residential neighborhoods, and wholesale Negro voting? If so, let him come forward, as a fit companion of the inter-racial rabble with whom he will assuredly be associated on any "advisory group."

The last time the Civil Rights Commission tried to find enough disloyal or unthinking Mississippians to serve on such an "advisory group," a Commission field agent traveled far and wide throughout the state, under our constant surveillance. When he was finally confronted by newsmen in his Jackson hotel room, he left town so quickly that his only suit was left behind at the cleaners. We trust the Commission's current carpetbag agents

(Continued on Page 2)

Mississippi Probe May Lead To Laws Tightening Controls

A Mississippi Legislative inquiry into Communism linked the NAACP to the Communist cause this month and provoked a "damned lie" blast from Delta Editor Hodding Carter when he was also tied in with the investigation.

The hearing on Communist activities in Mississippi is possibly the forerunner of more stringent state laws to be enacted when the 1960 session of the state legislature meets in January.

Among laws contemplated is one which will open membership records of the NAACP to state authorities.

Alabama currently has such a law, which has been upheld by higher courts and resulted in the outlawing of the Alabama NAACP after that organization refused to make public its membership lists.

Carter, editor of the Greenville Delta Democrat Times, was named by Dr. J. B. Matthews of New York as one of the "50 interlocking officials" of the Southern Regional Council, the Southern Conference Educational Fund and/or the Southern Conference for Human Welfare—all three of which, Dr. Matthews maintained, are "more than slightly tainted" by Communism.

Matthews, former research director for U.S. Senate and House subversive investigating committees, gave his information on subversion in Mississippi at a special two-day hearing of the General Legislative Investigating Committee in Jackson Nov. 18 and 19. The committee is headed by State Senator H. B. Mayes McGehee of Meadville.

Senator McGehee said the committee's findings would be reported in full at the January session of the State Legislature.

Carter disputed Matthews' statements concerning him, but admitted that he belonged to one of the three organizations mentioned, the Southern Regional Council.

"I belong to it openly," Carter retorted, "and believe it a worthwhile inter-racial organization in these unhappy times. In implying that I am in any way linked with the Southern Conference Educational Fund and in stating that the Southern Regional Council is Communist-tainted, Matthews is a damned liar!"

(Editor's Note — Here we encounter the familiar tactic of denying an allegation which was never made.

Dr. Matthews did not testify that Carter was a MEMBER of all three organizations. He DID identify Carter as one of the "fifty individuals who were on the Board of Directors at one time or another of the Southern Regional Council and also held official rank in the Southern Conference for Human Welfare and/or the Southern Conference Educational Fund." The key phrase here is "official rank."

Of the interconnections between SRC, SCHW and SCEF, Dr. Matthews remarked, "That is quite a good measure of interlocking."

Carter was also identified in Matthews' testimony as "a sponsor of the first Southwide Conference on Discrimination in Higher Education which was convened in Atlanta on April 8, 1950, under the auspices of the Southern Conference Educational Fund."

Whether helping sponsor a pro-integration SCEF conference means that Carter is "in any way linked with SCEF" is the question to be determined.)

Carter's profane denunciation of his accuser failed to impress most Mississippians. Several editors pointed out that Carter's loyalty was not at issue during the hearings; he was simply identified as one of many persons who have supported groups with questionable loyalties and motives.

Writing in the Meridian, Miss., Star, editor James B. Skewes put it this way:

"Even though Hodding Carter is a loyal American, he is not—or, at least, he certainly does not write

like—a loyal Mississippian or Southerner."

Others named by Dr. Matthews were: a former professor at Mississippi Southern College, Lawrence Raymond LaVelle, now at a Pennsylvania school; Chester W. Quimby, formerly of Wood Junior College at Mathiston, Miss.; and Bishop William Wright, one-time chancellor of a Negro school, Campbell College, in Jackson.

Sherman L. Greene Sr., formerly of Campbell College; Mrs. Winifred Feise, formerly of Jackson; the late P. H. Eason, director of the Negro Division of the State Department of Education; M. E. Tilly, field secretary for the Southern Regional Council; Carl and Anne Braden, field workers for the Southern Conference Educational Fund; Grady Jenkins, "former Communist organizer in Mississippi and Tennessee"; and a former president of Alcorn A & M College for Negroes, William H. Bell.

Following Matthews to the stand was Zack Van Landingham, chief investigator for the Mississippi State Sovereignty Commission, who testified that members of Communist-front organizations have often addressed Mississippi Negroes in recent years.

Among those named by Van Landingham were: Ruby Hurley, the Rev. Martin Luther King, John Bolt Culbertson, Roy Wilkins, Bishop C. Eubanks Tucker and Rev. J. M. Lawson, Jr.

(Editor's Note: While the hearing was being held, Bishop Tucker, of Louisville, Ky., was urging Mississippi and Tennessee Negroes in a Memphis meeting to press for "total integration of public schools" at the Mississippi and West Tennessee conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church.)

Ruby Hurley, Southeastern regional secretary of the NAACP, was named as a former member of the New York Youth Council board of directors, cited as a Communist Conference by the U.S. House Committee on Un-American Activities.

Martin Luther King, Van Landingham testified, was associated with the Highlander Folk School in Tennessee, an inter-racial and "Communist training school". (See "Tennessee Report" in this issue—Ed.)

Wilkins, executive secretary of the NAACP, was named as a participant in the American League for Peace and Democracy, the Conference for Pan-American Democracy and the North American Conference to Aid Spanish Democracy—all of which Van Landingham named as Communist-dominated.

Van Landingham is a former FBI agent with 27 years' experience.

Matthews, when asked by members of the committee, said his voluminous records indicated "a very high degree of Communist-front infiltration into the leadership of the NAACP."

"I know of no other organization in the United States that has been so heavily infiltrated," he told the committee.

(Editor's Note—It is significant that the Southern Conference Educational Fund—mostly Negroes—in a meeting at Memphis following the Mississippi General Legislative Investigating Committee hearings made a lot of noise over the subversive probe, indicating that the committee had stepped on some tender and probably guilty toes.

At the same time, the Mississippi American Legion gave its full endorsement to the hearings at a Vicksburg meeting and offered the state any help needed.)

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The Carpetbaggers Are Coming--Again!

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will take the hint. If they wish to enjoy the "benefits" of integration, let them arm themselves for battle and journey through the streets of New York or Washington.

There is no place for them or their kind in Mississippi. That is why the Civil Rights Commission's annual effort will again end in failure.

II.

The most graphic way Mississippi can show the rest of the country how we feel about the Federal Civil Rights Commission is to have absolutely nothing to do with this evil Commission.

Let there be no mistake about it: we are engaged in an all-out war to maintain our segregated way of life. Our enemies will stop at nothing. The Commission is stacked completely against the South. All it wants is the complete and total integration of the races in every state, including Mississippi.

It should be clear to everyone by now that the Federal Civil Rights Commission does not want "advisors" to recommend ways to continue peaceful racial relationships in Mississippi. The Commission does want a group of integration experts to operate behind a smoke-screen of subterfuge and evasion while seeking to undermine our segregated social system.

Mississippi has absolutely no intention of yielding to the threats of the race-mixers. Our steadfast determination to maintain complete segregation should be plainly exhibited for all to see.

Our determination to hold the line on segregation is winning us the respect and admiration of millions of Americans in other parts of the nation. Any hesitation, any deviation on our part will cause our friends elsewhere in the country to abandon hope.

Let us show America that we intend to continue the fight. Let us maintain that unity which has enabled us to defeat the forces of integration again and again during the past five years.

Let us not allow divisive elements to drive a wedge among us—to turn Mississippians against Mississippians. Let us reassert our firm belief that there is no place for enemy agents in our midst. Let us DEFY the Federal Civil Rights Commission in its efforts to employ Mississippians as collaborators, to spy and report on their fellow citizens. Let there be no Quislings in our midst, working for the destruction of our segregated social system while turning friend against friend, neighbor against neighbor.

Let our people unite behind the leadership of responsible officials and organizations. Let us not weaken our position by shackling our state to a motley "advisory group" of Mississippi integration experts serving as front-men for the Federal Civil Rights Commission.

Hearings just concluded by the General Legislative Investigating Committee in Jackson show clearly that the Communists are behind this agitation for integration. They seek to weaken America by weakening the moral fiber of the American people. Surely, no sane adult Mississippian would knowingly give aid and comfort to the Communist cause; yet, serving on any so-called "Civil Rights advisory group" would do just that.

With a united and determined people, our cause will prevail; and Mississippi will continue as the national symbol of successful segregation.

The 'Brotherly Love' Brigade



CRC Is Trying Again

(Continued from Page 1)

of his Washington office, blanketing the state with letters soliciting membership on the integrated "advisory" group.

Harris enclosed with his letters copies of the CRC's annual report, which he presumably did not expect prospective appointees to take the time to read. While the report bristles with recommendations for forcible school integration, Federal voter registration, integration of residential areas and other race-mixing suggestions, Harris' letter blithely explained to Mississippians that they would not be asked to compromise their views.

While stating that the "advisors" would "not be asked to compromise their views," Harris failed to explain how anyone believing in segregation could cooperate with and supply information to a strongly pro-integration Civil Rights Commission without compromising his views.

Citizens' Council leaders, who from the creation of the Civil Rights Commission have urged Southerners to shun the Federal agency, added new emphasis to their views.

"No decent Mississippian should allow himself to be misled into this attempt to dignify the Civil Rights Commission," said Robert B. Patterson of Greenwood, executive secretary of the Mississippi Association of Citizens' Councils.

Patterson referred to the CRC as "a nefarious organization which deserves the contempt of all patriotic Americans."

W. J. Simmons of Jackson, editor of The Citizens' Council, official publication of the Southwide Council movement, put it this way:

"Any scoundrel Southerner who fronts for our mortal enemies will face the well-deserved distaste, contempt and ostracism that any proud people would feel for a traitor."

A week later, after Harris' false claims were publicized, Simmons said: "Let there be no mistake about it: we are engaged in an all-out war to maintain our segregated way of life. Our enemies will stop at nothing. The Commission is stacked completely against the South. All it wants is the complete and total integration of the races in every state, including Mississippi."

(Editor's Note—For more comment on this subject, see the front page editorial in this issue.)

The only white Mississippian to accept appointment as an integration "advisor" to the CRC, Rev. Murray Cox, 60-year-old Gulfport, Miss., semi-retired Methodist minister, commented, "I feel that segregation by law is not right."

Another prospective appointee, retired Admiral R. P. Briscoe of Liberty, only recently moved to Mississippi. He told the CRC he'd have to check into the matter more fully. Briscoe is listed by the CRC as having accepted the appointment conditionally.

Several other Mississippians emphatically denied that they had ac-

cepted appointments, while others reported in relieved tones that they had decided against accepting.

Meantime, in Washington, the Commission itself was busy planning its expansion in the grand bureaucratic manner.

The CRC's first report dealt with education, voting and housing. And employees are now studying ways of eliminating segregated housing, while probing so-called "discrimination" in employment and the administration of justice, including jury selection.

In Alabama, Governor John Patterson reported that Federal Civil Rights Commission agents are again investigating Negro voting complaints. Patterson said an FBI agent told him of the new probe.

The Governor commented: "These agents have no right to be down here meddling in our domestic affairs. They will get no help or assistance from me whatsoever. We will fight them at every turn and they will find it will be uphill and hard going all the way."

Speculation in Selma, Ala., is that Federal agents may seek a court order barring Dallas County election officials from resigning. Already, a Federal judge has said he doesn't feel that "registrars are free to resign at will."

(Editor's Note—Obviously, the learned judge is unfamiliar with the terms of the 13th Amendment—or does this apply only to blacks nowadays?)

A Mississippi judge has branded all Civil Rights laws unconstitutional. Circuit Judge M. M. McGowan of Jackson warned in a statement that the South should not compromise on fundamental principles.

Judge McGowan's statement: "All so-called Civil Rights laws are unconstitutional and repugnant to the fundamental principles upon which our Republic was founded and has grown so great.

"Under the English and American jurisprudence and law of property and individual freedom, every wrong that one person does to another, other than crimes and contractual breaches, is classed as some form of trespass. It is the function of the government to legislate as to what constitutes a trespass and provide court facilities where individuals may litigate with one another as to their rights.

"The very thought of the government taking up the cudgel in behalf of one individual against another even in the case of a recognized civil wrong is both abhorrent and dangerous. If the government continues to use the policeman's club to force people to share their society and property with others, it will lead to a revolutionary process whereby our very form of government will be changed, and our freedoms perhaps forever lost.

"The entire Civil Rights concept has its origin in socialist and even communist doctrines. It should be

Report From Tennessee

By Richard Burrow, Jr.

Altamont—A circuit court jury has ruled here that the leftist-oriented Highlander Folk School has been operated for the personal gain of racial integrationist Myles Horton, who runs the school.

The verdict came as a round one victory for the State of Tennessee in its attempt to revoke the charter of the infamous institution at Monteagle.

Judge Chester C. Chattin reserved any further ruling in the case, however, giving defense attorney Cecil Brantister of Nashville 30 days to file a brief on legal points of the lawsuit.

District Attorney General A. F. Sloan will have 10 days after that to file an answer to Brantister's brief.

Prior to these proceedings, the district attorney had gone before the Grundy County grand jury and obtained criminal indictments against the Negro educational director and three white "out-of-state work campers", all of whom were arrested during a raid at Highlander in July.

Arrested were: Septima P. Clark, 61-year-old Negro woman charged with possessing whiskey in "dry" Grundy County and who is now free on \$500 bail; Brent Eugene Barkdale, 22, Los Angeles typist; Guy Hughes Carawan, Jr., 32, Los Angeles folk singer; and Perry McKay Sturges, 35, a librarian at Shelton Island Heights, N.Y.—all charged with public drunkenness, resisting arrest and interfering with an officer. The last three are free under \$250 bonds.

One of the major issues to be covered in the attorney general's briefs is the validity of the state's segregation statutes. The prosecutor said Highlander is a private institution operating by virtue of a "contract" between the state and Horton.

"Every law on the books is a part of that contract and must be respected," he declared. "I don't believe the U.S. Supreme Court or the State Supreme Court has ever stated that a private school can be integrated and remain within the Tennessee law."

Nashville—At Vanderbilt University, strong student opposition has developed to the recent action of the Student Senate in voting, 16 to 6, to renew membership in the leftist-oriented United States National Student Association. The action was taken after a hot debate during which opponents of renewal charged, according to the Vanderbilt Hustler, that the Association advocates rapid integration of the races in higher education and demands that teachers and students have access to Communist literature and to Communist speakers.

In a series of strong editorials Chuck Nord, editor of the Vanderbilt Hustler, criticized the action of the student senators. "On the basis of a careful checking of the USNSA's background and its statement of purposes," the Hustler editor said, "the Hustler must at this point declare itself solidly against Vanderbilt's continued membership in the organization. The ties with Communism—however faint these may seem to be—and the stand on integration—which is openly declared—are both too much for Vanderbilt students in general to underwrite, first as Americans, and second as Southerners."

Protest from the student body took the form of a petition, signed by 537 students, asking for a referendum on the question of renewal of membership in the USNSA. The Student Senate declined to take immediate action on the petition and during its debate on the petition excluded representatives of the press, including the Hustler staff, from its meeting.

The Congressional Record of July 14, 1958, carries a statement by J. B. Matthews which reaches the following conclusions regarding the USNSA: "That the policies and program of the USNSA embrace the important lines of the Communist Party insofar as these touch upon questions involved in student life and activity on the campuses of American colleges and universities; and that the adult leaders, speakers, and advisers of the USNSA represent a high degree of leftwing and pro-Communist infiltration of the organization." Matthews' statement was read into the Congressional Record by Congressman John Bell Williams of Mississippi.

rejected in toto unequivocally and without any trace of compromise.

"We are permitting ourselves to be constantly driven into one confused retreat after another by the tricky conspirators who are seeking to destroy our fundamental freedoms. Compromise is their chief weapon. They do not expect a clear cut victory—just one compromise after another. The solid conservative people of the South are the only hope of the nation right now. We should reject all civil rights and every soothing compromise they offer."

Vermont Lynching Is Still Unpunished After 2 Years

Vermont authorities are emitting pained protests after Southern newsmen uncovered an apparent "lynching—Yankee style" in the Northern state, and noted that the crime had gone unpunished for nearly two years.

The victim of Vermont "justice" was Orville A. Gibson, a 47-year-old Newbury, Vt., dairy farmer. Gibson administered a beating to his elderly hired hand, because the man had spilled two cans of milk. That was on Christmas Day, 1957—nearly two years ago.

A week later, on New Year's Eve, 1957, Gibson disappeared. Evidence indicates he was seized in his barn in the early-morning darkness and dragged outside. His ice-preserved body, bound into a jackknifed position with one piece of rope at the wrists and ankles, was recovered from the Connecticut River near Bradford, Vt., on March 26, 1958.

Two Newbury men, Robert O. Welch, 46, and Frank W. Carpenter, 44, were arraigned Nov. 5, 1958, on charges of kidnapping and manslaughter. Two weeks later, a grand jury indicted both men on the additional charge of murder.

Vermont newspapers referred to Gibson's death as a "vigilante slaying" or a "community killing," while reserving the propaganda word "lynching" for use in Southern stories.

And when the two accused men stood trial last month, the judge directed that Welch be acquitted of the murder charge. The state then dropped the murder charge against Carpenter. The kidnapping and manslaughter charges remained on the books.

UPI reported that the Oct. 15 acquittal of Welch "appeared to have satisfied everyone, including the prosecuting attorney."

Vermont attorney general Frederick M. Reed, who personally prosecuted the case, said "the state is not in any way dissatisfied with what was decided here today."

And Vermont Governor Robert T. Stafford said the verdict "was probably the right thing." The officials noted Gibson's "violent temper" and "anti-social behavior" with townsmen.

ADL Praises Southern Press Stand For Mixing

The general counsel of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has praised the Southern press for doing a "magnificent job" in fighting segregation.

Arnold Forster, the ADL's chief lawyer, said in Cleveland, Ohio, that the pro-integration Jewish organization surveyed Southern newspapers. He reported that the ADL found the Southern press had done a "magnificent job in battling against segregation."

"We surveyed several hundred newspapers in the South," Forster said, "even in the deepest South." "We found this to be a great example of the press fighting for law and order."

(Editor's Note—The objectivity of the ADL "survey" might be open to question, considering the group's announced policy of securing total mixing of the races.)

Incidentally, as this publication predicted last month, the Mississippi State Board of Education—composed of the state superintendent of education, the attorney general, and the secretary of state—made permanent the ban against an ADL propaganda film, "The High Wall."

The film had been circulating in the state's audio-visual library, and was shown to numerous school groups before a protest was filed. Upon receipt of the complaint, "The High Wall" was screened and withdrawn from circulation pending board action. The board made the ban permanent.

Once again, the ADL stands convinced of spreading propaganda under the guise of education.)

The Northern press remained strangely silent. No demands were heard for the type of "firing-squad justice" so often expected of the South. No columnists suggested that the two accused men should be stood against a wall and shot at sunrise the following day. In fact, no one said anything.

That is, no one except editor James Ward of the Jackson, Miss. Daily News. Ward wrote a front-page editorial on Oct. 16, entitled "A Real Dignified Lynching."

The editorial pointed out that the crime occurred nearly two years ago, "but those fast-moving, swift-thinking, finger-pointing Yankee editors hid the body all this time. They were too busy writing about Southern injustice and the divine law of the land."

"Why was this lynching so nice, quiet and smooth?" Ward asked. "You would think Orville A. Gibson didn't beg for his life. You would think, from news accounts, he didn't even bleed."

Yet, Ward noted, if the same incident had occurred in Mississippi, with the victim a Negro rapist, "there would be screams, shouts, tears, moaning, plate-passing church revivals over a dead body. There would be world prayer meetings, public statements issued, sainthood sought for the deceased. Television cameras would be grinding. The South would be deplored. Tears would mix with ink in editorials throughout the world."

(Editor's Note—The entire editorial is reprinted elsewhere in this issue. Be sure to read it.)

Wire services reported Ward's editorial. UPI said that "before and during the trial, state officials appeared to avoid using the term 'lynching.' The Gibson case was called at various times a 'community killing' or 'vigilante justice.'"

Southern editors responded enthusiastically. And even the Vermont press grudgingly admitted that it had been caught red-handed.

A columnist for the Burlington, Vt., Sunday News, Fred Richmond, called attention to the editorial and admitted that Gibson's death was "a lynching pure and simple."

Richmond agreed that "if it had happened in the Deep South to a Negro, there is no doubt in my mind that many residents of Newbury would point a finger of shame at the South."

Attorney general Reed said "a definite animosity developed toward Orville Gibson, with some kind of vigilante action against him."

Two weeks after Welch's acquittal, Reed asked the Vermont state police to review the entire case and search for new clues. At the same time, Governor Stafford announced that he had asked FBI agents to aid in the investigation.

The governor acted the day after eight Orange County, Vt., residents submitted a special petition to him asking a thorough state investigation. The citizens said that if the state failed to act, they would ask the U. S. Senate to investigate Vermont justice.

And the FBI asked the Justice Department to decide whether it could enter the case on grounds that Gibson's abductors crossed a state line before throwing him into the river.

Authorities believe Gibson was thrown into the river while still alive from a bridge connecting Newbury, Vt., with Haverhill, N. H. If so, the kidnappers crossed a state line with their victim, since the river is part of New Hampshire.

(Editor's Note—No word yet from U. S. Attorney General Rogers, who's probably trying to determine if a few FBI agents can be spared from Southern duty to help find some Northern lynchings who executed a man for his "anti-social behavior with townsmen." Besides, there's no political percentage in entering the Vermont case—the victim was—pardon the expression—white!)

Even the Vermont press took up the cry for an FBI probe. And Governor Stafford was quoted as saying he had written U. S. Attorney Louis G. Whitcomb to request an FBI investigation.

Several interesting aspects of the case were noted by the Memphis Commercial Appeal's Washington columnist, Morris Cunningham, who wrote:

"There are a number of interesting similarities, and an equal number of differences, in the Mack Charles Parker case and the Orville A. Gibson case."

"As for the differences, Parker was a Negro. Gibson was a white man."

"Parker was the target of community hostility because of the belief—supported by evidence—that he had raped a 24-year-old pregnant white woman in the presence of her small child. He was being held in jail, due to go on trial two days later, when a group of men took him from the jail the night of April 25, 1959."

"Gibson, according to the Vermont state attorney general, was the target of community hostility because of the beating he had given his 59-year-old hired hand. He was dragged from his barn."

"Parker is believed to have been kidnapped and lynched by a mob. Gibson is believed to have been seized and killed by vigilantes. If the facts are true in both cases, the only difference is semantics. A murder committed by vigilantes is no less illegal than a murder committed by a mob."

Cunningham reviewed the extensive FBI probe of the Parker case, and said more than 60 FBI agents converged on the Poplarville area speedily, "while the evidence was still fresh."

"The request for FBI assistance has come more slowly in the Vermont case," Cunningham adds. "So far, not a single FBI agent has investigated the Gibson case."

"The Justice Department directed the FBI into the Parker case under a clause in the Federal anti-kidnaping law which presumes that after a prescribed period an abducted person may have been taken across a state line."

"There would have been grounds, it would appear, for the same presumption in the Gibson case."

Yet, it is to be remembered, Federal authorities did not enter the Vermont case. Law-abiding citizens in all parts of the nation are curious about the seeming double standard of "justice" now in vogue in the Washington headquarters of the Justice Department.

A Real Dignified Lynching

(From the Jackson, Miss., Daily News)

Up in Vermont, a 47-year-old dairy farmer, Orville A. Gibson, was lynched by a vigilante gang.

This happened Dec. 31, 1957—nearly two years ago—but those fast-moving swift-thinking, finger-pointing Pulitzer prize-winning Yankee editors hid the body all this time. They were too busy writing about Southern injustice and bigotry and the divine law of the land.

Finally it oozed to the country that Robert O. (Ozzie) Welch, 46, a Newbury school janitor, and Frank W. Carpenter, 44, of West Newbury, were charged with dragging Gibson from his barn, beating him, binding him and tossing his warm body into the Connecticut river.

This week trial was held.

Verdict: Welch won acquittal on a directed verdict without any defense witness called. The indictment against Carpenter was nolle prossed by the state attorney general.

How much news attention did this dramatic piece of human behavior receive? Very little.

Did the lynching scorekeepers at Tuskegee Institute record this death? Nary a squeak.

Did the FBI get summoned into Chelsea? Not a word about that. Did the nation's press weep tears over the reign of terror in Vermont? We haven't seen a single editorial on the subject.

Did the social reformers and "uplift" societies swing into action and demand justice? That front is quiet as a dairy barn mouse.

Was the President of the United States asked to send troops into Chelsea? Was the President asked to comment on this crime at his regular press conferences? Two more negatives.

These are elementary observations. Chelsea, Vermont, is too distant from the editorial offices of the Jackson Daily News for us to offer any solutions to that community's problems. We do not pose as experts on such distant affairs, especially when the body was hidden so expertly by our more brilliant brothers of journalism in the refined, dignified, well-behaved, law-abiding area of the educated East.

Yet, somehow the case invites further study.

Why was this lynching so nice, quiet and smooth? Had this same incident involved a Negro rapist in Mississippi what could be expected? Oh, there would be screams, shouts, tears, moaning, plate-passing church revivals over a dead body. There would be world prayer meetings, public statements issued, sainthood sought for the deceased. Television cameras would be grinding. The South would be deplored. Oh, tears would mix with ink in editorials throughout the world.

The contrast is obvious. The contrast is thundering. When a band of hot-headed Vermont night riders go around knocking off their fellow citizens you must admit they are quiet, gentle, smooth, clean and clever little bigots.

You would think Orville A. Gibson didn't beg for his life. You would think, from news accounts, he didn't even bleed. How sweet this Vermont lynching!

And, if the unbalanced news treatment accorded the Vermont lynching as compared with a dead rapist in the South isn't a case of gross hypocrisy, will someone please unearth one.

One little question for the AP and UPI, please. What is the status of the case of the dead Negro rapist named McClelland found floating in the Missouri river at Kansas City about three weeks ago?

Nationwide Poll Shows Most Methodists Oppose Mixing

A prominent theologian conducted a poll, and learned what we've known all along—that most Americans don't want to integrate!

Dr. Walter G. Muelder, dean of the Boston University College of

Theology, conducted a nationwide scientific survey of 7,000 Methodists.

Reporting to the annual National Methodist Conference on Christian Education in Cincinnati Nov. 6, Dr. Muelder gave these results of his survey:

—only 18.9 per cent of those polled believe that all racial discrimination and enforced segregation should be abolished.

—22.8 per cent state firmly that racial segregation is desirable "to preserve social purity."

—the remaining 52.3 per cent want equal opportunities for all races, but were unwilling to advocate integration. This group cautioned that even non-social changes in present patterns of living should be brought about gradually, and only where needed to insure equality of opportunity.

It is believed this is the first such scientific sampling of church members' opinions on segregation ever undertaken on a nationwide basis.

(Editor's Note—A strangely enough, news stories on the Cincinnati meeting didn't mention the reaction this survey caused among those present. Possibly this is because the delegates were all stunned into silence. Or perhaps the reporters got knocked down when the learned assembly launched a mass stampede away from reality and back into their integrated ivory towers.)

Dallas Columnist Asks--

Why Does Clergy Seek Integration By Force?

(Editor's Note—A group of churchmen recently held a conference at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, at which they advocated immediate and total integration of the races. The meeting prompted the following comment from Lynn Landrum of the Dallas Morning News.)

As leading elder of the Episcopalian Church, Unigational Synod, Reformed Branch, the Columnator has trouble. His problem is with religionists who believe that religion and liberty are incompatible.

Out at SMU there has been going on an odd sort of summit meeting of religionists who want to force somebody else to do something at which his inmost soul revolts.

Now, in Little Rock, righteousness by court decree and brother-

ly love by bayonet-at-your-throat are in full force and effect. But the segregated black churches are still black and the segregated white churches are still white.

Maybe you can see why a carpetbagger from New York or Michigan can rejoice in ramming Reconstruction II down rebel gullets. But when the carpetbagger hires him a lawyer and calls in the tank corps in the name of the Lord, the leading elder has his doubts.

Perhaps the Lord does send carpetbaggers to punish us for violation of a system of segregation set up by the Divine decree. Slavers violated the decree and forgot that God set "the bounds of their habitation" for the Negroes in Africa. Our forefathers bought these Negro slaves and we justly suffer, perhaps, in the fourth and fifth generation.

But to get back to the SMU campus, is it the business of a racially segregated church to demand desegregation of schools by force—as a matter of Christian conscience?

Yet scores of ministers of such a segregated denomination here in Dallas signed a manifesto endorsing legally enforced desegregation of tax-supported schools. The Columnator wondered at that.

Is it not time to take census and find out how many Dallas Negroes want mixed schools, how many Dallas whites want mixed schools and how many citizens of both races want separate schools?

In all this talk about democracy, most of the talkers want a court writ or Army tank, instead of a democratic show of hands in an honest attempt to give everybody what he really wants for his own children.

And in all this talk about who shall barge in and demand his rights in the House of the Lord, most of the talkers are more concerned about forcing somebody else to knuckle under than they are concerned about somebody's having a humble and a contrite heart.

Until the carpetbaggers of Reconstruction II took over, good will and mutual respect between whites and blacks in Dallas had made astonishing progress. But since the carpetbaggers descended upon us, they have brought more ill will inside and outside the meetinghouses than Dallas has had since the carpetbaggers pulled out back in 1870-odd.

A D.D. carpetbagger in a frock coat is still a carpetbagger in this columnist's book.

EXTRA COPIES AVAILABLE

Extra copies of this issue are available for mailing to your friends throughout the nation. Just drop us a line and let us know how many copies you can use. Acquaintances in New England might be especially interested in the Vermont case described on this page.

—The Editors.

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Essay Contest Underway In Mississippi

Two Mississippi high school students will win \$500 awards next spring in the annual essay contest sponsored by the Educational Fund of the Citizens' Councils.

The 1959-60 contest, now underway, offers top cash prizes of \$500 each to the high school boy and girl winning in statewide essay competition.

In addition, local Councils are awarding prizes for winners at the local high school level.

Deadline for the current contest is April 1, 1960. The rules specify essays of 3000 words or less on one of four subjects: (1) Why I believe in social separation of the races of mankind; (2) Subversion in racial unrest; (3) Why the preservation of States' Rights is important to every American; and (4) Why separate schools should be maintained for the white and Negro races.

A pamphlet containing complete rules of the contest, together with a list of suggested reference material, may be obtained by writing the Educational Fund of the Citizens' Councils, 115 Howard Street, Greenwood, Miss.

Last year's contest drew several thousand entries from all parts of Mississippi. Officials report that even more entries are expected this year, as interest in the contest increases.

(Editor's Note—The essay contest plan is readily adaptable to use by state and local Council organizations in other states. If your group is interested in such a project, complete information about the contest may be obtained by writing the Educational Fund at the above address.)

NCC Plans Integration DAR Is Told

The National Council of Churches has come under fire for "seeking integration in Southern churches."

A meeting in Jackson of the National Defense Council of the Mississippi Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, heard a statement blasting the National Council of Churches as having "laid plans for a diabolical destruction of many principles of this land of ours."

"Churches in politics are promoting integration throughout the Southland," Mrs. Vic Robbins of Vicksburg, Miss., added.

Mrs. Robbins said the National Council of Churches "is not working to enlarge the spiritual resources of man, but is striving for a one-world church."

"Beware of all inter-faith and inter-church appeals," she continued. "The NCC calls for a shift from faith in God to faith in man. It aims to tear down the social barriers. No one will be rich. No one will be poor. They are asking for and working for the welfare state."

"People in the pews of our churches are supporting this program through their offerings, without being aware of it. The NCC guides the actions of many smaller organizations while they reach into the pockets of churchgoers."

Presbyterians Organize

A group of aroused Presbyterian laymen has organized to fight an "ecclesiastical machine of liberal ministers" in the Presbyterian Church, U. S.

The Presbyterian Laymen for Sound Doctrine, Inc., with headquarters in Selma, Ala., is circulating 30,000 copies of a pamphlet among Southern Presbyterians.

The laymen hope the pamphlet will generate "a general uprising at the grass roots of the church against this ecclesiastical machine of liberal ministers."

Taking the church leadership to task for "a trend toward hierarchy and liberalism," the publication is critical of the policies of Dr. Ernest Trice Thompson of Richmond, Va., moderator of the church.

The laymen point out that in 1941, charges of unorthodoxy and liberality were brought against Dr. Thompson, but because conservative ministers and laymen failed to back up the charges, Thompson was allowed to continue as a professor at Union Theological Seminary.

"He was allowed to indoctrinate and influence with his liberal teachings and views over 2,000 young ministers and practically every director of Christian education in the church," the pamphlet says.

"Under his leadership, the liberals have now taken over and control our general assembly, boards, agencies, seminaries, colleges and conferences in our church."

Here Is The Enemy!

Here is the official list of organizations appearing in House and Senate committee records as favoring "Civil Rights" and anti-South force legislation during 1957 and 1959. The 74 groups listed below accounted for a total of 143 witnesses before, or documents filed with, the committees. The list has been compiled from official transcripts of House and Senate committee hearings on "Civil Rights" proposals. A number in parentheses following the name of an organization indicates the number of appearances made by that group during the hearings.

Here are the organizations:

- Amalgamated Meat Cutters' & Butchers' Workmen of North America, AFL-CIO (2)
 - American Civil Liberties Union (2)
 - American Council on Human Rights
 - Americans for Democratic Action (3)
 - American Ethical Union
 - AFL-CIO (4)
 - American Friends Service Committee
 - American Jewish Committee (3)
 - American Jewish Congress (5)
 - American Liberal Association (2)
 - American Veterans Committee (3)
 - Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (3)
 - Atlanta Branch, NAACP
 - Catholic Interracial Council
 - Clarendon County, South Carolina, Improvement Association
 - District of Columbia Federation of Civic Associations
 - Emergency Civil Liberties Committee
 - The Episcopal Church (3)
 - Friends Committee on National Legislation (3)
 - Hattiesburg, Mississippi, Branch, NAACP
 - Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World
 - International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union (3)
 - International Union of Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, AFL-CIO (2)
 - Japanese American Citizens League (4)
 - Jewish Labor Committee (2)
 - Jewish War Veterans (4)
 - Leadership Conference on Civil Rights
 - Liberal Party of New York State
 - The Methodist Church (3)
 - Michigan State AFL-CIO
 - Mississippi State Conference of NAACP Branches
 - National Alliance of Postal Workers
 - National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (7)
 - National Association of Social Workers (4)
 - National Catholic Welfare Conference
 - National Community Relations Advisory Council
 - National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA (3)
 - National Council of Jewish Women
 - National Council of Negro Women
 - National Fraternal Council of Churches, USA
 - National Lawyers Guild (3)
 - National League of Peace and Freedom
 - National Lutheran Council
 - New York Hotel Trades Council, AFL-CIO
 - Protestants and Other Americans United for the Separation of Church and State (2)
 - St. Louis Branch, NAACP
 - South Carolina Progressive Democratic Organization (2)
 - South Carolina State Conference of NAACP Branches
 - Southern Regional Council (2)
 - Textile Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO
 - Transportation Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO
 - Union of American Hebrew Congregations
 - Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America
 - Unitarian Fellowship for Social Justice (3)
 - United Automobile, Aircraft & Agricultural Implement Workers (2)
 - United Automobile Workers, AFL-CIO
 - United Hebrew Trades
 - U. S. Government Agencies:
 - Commission on Civil Rights (12)
 - Department of the Air Force
 - Department of Health, Education and Welfare
 - Department of Justice
 - Department of Labor
 - Department of the Treasury
 - General Services Administration
 - Housing and Home Finance Agency
 - Interstate Commerce Commission
 - President's Committee on Government Contracts
 - U. S. National Students Association (4)
 - United Steelworkers of America, AFL-CIO
 - United Synagogue of America
 - War Defense League
 - Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (3)
 - Workmen's Circle
 - Young Women's Christian Association
- (We suggest that you file this list for future reference. —Ed.)

Regardless Of Facts--

U.S. Attorney General Demands Indictments

U. S. Attorney General William P. Rogers is determined to make the death of Negro M. C. Parker at Poplarville, Miss., a Federal case, come what may.

Undaunted by the fact that FBI agents, state and local officials and a grand jury have been unable to find sufficient evidence for arrest or even for indictments, Rogers has ordered a Federal grand jury to probe the case.

The Federal grand jury will be convened by U. S. District Judge Sidney Mize in Biloxi, Miss., Jan. 4. It represents Rogers' last chance of bringing Federal charges in the case.

Parker's bullet-ridden body was found in the Pearl River last May 4. He was being held in the Pearl River County jail at Poplarville while being tried for raping a 24-year-old pregnant white woman while her 4-year-old daughter watched in horror.

Other Negro prisoners in the jail said a group of masked white men dragged Parker from his cell late on the night of April 25.

Immediately following Parker's disappearance, a special task force of 60 FBI agents swarmed into Poplarville, and conducted a month-long investigation which included the questioning of many Pearl River County white men.

After laboratory tests on Parker's body were completed, the FBI ended its \$80,000 investigation and withdrew from the case, saying it could find no evidence of Federal law violations.

The bulky 378-page FBI report was turned over to state officials, who in turn handed it to county prosecutors for presentation to the Pearl River County grand jury. The grand jury met Nov. 2 and adjourned three days later. Its final report did not mention the Parker case, and no indictments were returned in connection with the case.

It will be at least May before it can be determined how extensively the grand jury considered the case, since under Mississippi law, grand jury records must remain secret for 6 months after the jury is discharged, and members of the panel are forbidden from discussing anything they considered while in session.

But apparently, this didn't bother Rogers. Presumably possessing the power of mental telepathy (or aided by a hidden microphone in the grand jury room?—Ed.), the attorney general called a news conference in Washington shortly after the grand jury submitted its final report.

"The failure to call witnesses was as flagrant and calculated a miscarriage of justice as I know of," Rogers fumed, just as though he knew what the jury had done in secret.

Rogers termed the lack of action "a real travesty of justice," and then set the wheels in motion leading to the Federal grand jury probe.

Rogers' angry words stood in sharp contrast to remarks by Circuit Judge Sebe Dale, who charged the 18-man Poplarville grand jury.

Judge Dale referred to the U. S. Supreme Court as "the board of sociology, sitting in Washington, garbed in judicial robes."

He told the grand jury that citizens "face the duty of maintaining our precious rights and liberties under the laws and courts of our state," adding that "we should have the backbone to stand against any tyranny—whether of some individual willing to sell our birthright for a mess of political pottage on the national level, or the reformers who would make us over according to the mess they have made from themselves, and, yes, even including the board of sociology, sitting in Washington, garbed in judicial robes."

Judge Dale continued, "The welfare of our people demands that we have no part in the efforts to destroy our individual rights and sovereignty. We cannot be unmindful of the growing tendency to weaken our courts and to put power in the hands of those who are not our people."

Also on Nov. 2, Circuit Judge Leon Hendrick empaneled the Hinds County grand jury in Jackson, Miss. He blasted "pressure groups, soci-

ologists and penologists" for the nation's mounting crime rate.

"These groups have gone wild on the subject of rehabilitation at the expense of law enforcement," Judge Hendrick told the grand jury.

"They say penalties do not deter criminals. I believe their sins can be forgiven, but they should pay the penalty. I also believe some criminals cannot be rehabilitated. When we get to the point where criminals can escape punishment through technicalities, law enforcement is hindered."

Pointing out that pressure groups, sociologists and penologists blame all crime on broken homes, poverty and inadequate housing, the judge said these are only contributory factors.

"I deplore the theory that the individual cannot be censured for his crimes," the judge added. "We were not brought up in rich homes, but we were brought up in homes where there was discipline. Before long, public opinion will swing back and demand that criminals be punished."

And while newspapers throughout the nation were lamenting in their best "liberal bleeding-heart" style over the lack of indictments in Poplarville, no editorial comment whatever was forthcoming in the case of a pretty, 17-year-old white girl in New York City, who was dragged from her doorway early one Sunday morning after returning from a dance.

The screaming victim was taken to a nearby building by four Negro teen-agers, who raped, beat and robbed her. When police arrived, the Negroes were choking her and beating her head against a wall. Bail was set at \$10,000 each for two of the Negroes, and \$5,000 for the other two. All four are charged with rape (which is still a capital crime in the South, and therefore not a bailable offense in these parts. But for Negroes in New York—that's different! —Ed.)

The girl's father commented poignantly, "You can run, but you can't hide."

Nor were cries of lament heard for one Kansas City Negro—part of a gang who raped and tortured a teen-aged white girl. The Negro's body was found in the Missouri River. But police brushed aside the possibility of "lynching." The official theory is that the Negro rapist was killed by his accomplices, who were afraid he might be arrested and would identify them.

(Editor's Note—If this case had happened in Mississippi, instead of Kansas, Federal agents would no doubt question the sanity of any Southern lawman who voiced such a theory. In addition, several divisions of paratroops would be alerted for impending duty in "lawless areas." The moral of this story, we guess, is that when you find a Negro floating in a river UP NORTH, it's a corpse of another color!)

Indiana Preachers Get Into The Act

Methodist ministers in Fort Wayne, Ind., have ventured far afield to comment on secular matters.

A Nov. 9 meeting produced a statement from the Methodist clergymen protesting "the failure of the Pearl River County, Miss., grand jury to bring to justice the murderers of Mack Charles Parker."

The ministers sent copies of their statement to the President, the U. S. Attorney General, and the Governor of Mississippi.

They said they feel "the murderers of Parker should be brought to justice in view of the evidence submitted by the FBI."

(Editor's Note—Again, we are treated to a display of mental telepathy at work—or perhaps in this case it is omniscience. Anyway, the "evidence submitted by the FBI" to which the preachers refer is part of a grand jury record which, by law, must remain secret until next May. With this being the case, just how do they know what "evidence" it contained? It must be nice to be clairvoyant!)

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